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Kunio Sekiya

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FLYNN THIEL BOUTELL & TANIS, P.C.
2026 RAMBLING ROAD
KALAMAZOO, MI 49008-1631

EXAMINER

HALPERN, MARK

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

1791

MAIL DATE

DELIVERY MODE

08/18/2008

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

DETAILED ACTION

1) Acknowledgement is made of Amendment received 5/14/2008. Claims 3, 5 are amended, claims 1-2, 4, 6-9 are cancelled, and new claims 10-14 are offered for consideration.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2) Claims 3, 10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Appel (6,306,814). Appel discloses a compound that is a silicone oil, more specifically a polysiloxane with amino alkyl side chains. The compound is a fabric conditioning agent (col. 14, lines 49-54). It is inherent therefore that the silicone oil is reactive.

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3) Claim 5 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Appel. It would have been obvious that the viscosity of the silicone oil be of claimed range since it is a standard range for silicone oil viscosity.

4) Claims 3, 10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Igarashi (US 2001/0037529). Igarashi discloses a silicone compound, such as dimethyl polysiloxane oil with hydroxyl group as side chain [0075]. The compound is a treating agent, it is inherent therefore that the silicone oil is reactive.

5) Claim 5 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Igarashi. It would have been obvious that the viscosity of the silicone oil be of claimed range since it is a standard range for silicone oil viscosity.

Double Patenting

The nonstatutory double patenting rejection is based on a judicially created doctrine grounded in public policy (a policy reflected in the statute) so as to prevent the unjustified or improper timewise extension of the “right to exclude” granted by a patent and to prevent possible harassment by multiple assignees. A nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting rejection is appropriate where the conflicting claims are not identical, but at least one examined application claim is not patentably distinct from the reference claim(s) because the examined application claim is either anticipated by, or would have been obvious over, the reference claim(s). See, e.g., *In re Berg*, 140 F.3d 1428, 46 USPQ2d 1226 (Fed. Cir. 1998); *In re Goodman*, 11 F.3d 1046, 29 USPQ2d 2010 (Fed. Cir. 1993); *In re Longi*, 759 F.2d 887, 225 USPQ 645 (Fed. Cir. 1985); *In re Van Ornum*, 686 F.2d 937, 214 USPQ 761 (CCPA 1982); *In re Vogel*, 422 F.2d 438, 164 USPQ 619 (CCPA 1970); and *In re Thorington*, 418 F.2d 528, 163 USPQ 644 (CCPA 1969).

A timely filed terminal disclaimer in compliance with 37 CFR 1.321(c) or 1.321(d) may be used to overcome an actual or provisional rejection based on a nonstatutory double patenting ground provided the conflicting application or patent either is shown to be commonly owned with this application, or claims an invention made as a result of activities undertaken within the scope of a joint research agreement.

Effective January 1, 1994, a registered attorney or agent of record may sign a terminal disclaimer. A terminal disclaimer signed by the assignee must fully comply with 37 CFR 3.73(b).

6) Claims 3, 5, 10-14 are provisionally rejected on the ground of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-4, 8-10 of copending Application No. 10/540,617. Although the conflicting claims are not identical, they are not patentably distinct from each other because the present application and the copending application disclose a contamination preventive agent containing silicone oil and the application of said agent to the surfaces of rolls in a papermaking machine.

This is a provisional obviousness-type double patenting rejection because the conflicting claims have not in fact been patented.

7) Claims 3, 5, 10-14 are provisionally rejected on the ground of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-21 of copending Application No. 10/546,345. Although the conflicting claims are not identical, they are not patentably distinct from each other because the present application and the copending application disclose a contamination preventive agent containing silicone oil and the application of said agent to the surfaces of rolls in a papermaking machine.

This is a provisional obviousness-type double patenting rejection because the conflicting claims have not in fact been patented.

Response to Amendment

- 8) Claims 1-5, 7-9 rejection under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Taichi Kuroda, is withdrawn in view of amended and cancelled claims.
- 9) Claim 6 rejection under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Taichi in view of Nguyen, is withdrawn in view of cancelled claim.
- 10) Applicant's arguments with respect to pending claims have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

11) Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the date of this final action.

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12) Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Mark Halpern whose telephone no. is 571-272-1190.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Steven Griffin can be reached on 571-272-1189. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only.

/Mark Halpern/
Primary Examiner
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